

answered a recent request sent out by the New York milk committee for reports. Passaic reported the highest infant death rate for 1915 — 193 deaths for every 1,000 population.

Also, of cities between 50,000 and 100,000 population, Passaic has held for 10 years the high record for percentage of deaths of babies under one year of age.

I walked out pleasant, three-arched avenues of Passaic and wondered why the city's children failed to thrive. Then I suddenly found the congested East Side of Passaic and knew the answer.

There are big woolen mills and rubber factories. Packed in vile tenements the poorly paid laborers of these mills and factories exist in ignorance of the elemental rules of health.

Several years ago the workers of the city organized to try to do for their fellows what the rich had not done. The Passaic labor forums fought courageously for better milk, better housing and a baby saving policy, and so much was accomplished that the infant death rate fell noticeably in the few years before 1915.

"The appropriation for the board of health is very small," said Dr. J. N. Ryan, health officer.

"And it's the well-to-do who are largely to blame. I've noticed that the poor man wants a square deal even if it does cost him more of his hard-earned pennies, but the man with barrels of money will kick like blazes if you add 1 cent to his tax rate!

"Take the present fight we are making to get a proper milk ordinance passed. We think the sale of any except bottled and graded milk should be absolutely prohibited.

"But because this measure would endanger the profits of a few small shops that sell dipped milk in the slums, there is violent opposition to it, which utterly disregards the lives of the tenement babies which are at stake!

"And so," Dr. Ryan concluded, "some of the lessons Passaic has learned by bitter experience and is willing to teach other cities for the benefit of their baby saving work are these:

"The fight must be not only in the establishment of milk stations and enforcement of rigid pure milk standards, but in patient, thorough educational work among the mothers in the congested districts.

"Prenatal work in the hands of excellent visiting nurses is a vital part of such instruction."

WILL TRY "HIGHBROW" MUSIC IN VAUDEVILLE



FRANZISKA HEINRICH

Fraulein Heinrich, prominent European concert pianist, has come to the United States to try to make vaudeville audiences like "high-brow" music. Her specialties are Liszt, Goria and Tschalkowsky. She expects to make a hit in vaudeville with music of that type.

OUR OWN HEALTH HINTS

If you have a tender skin never shave with the same razor your wife uses for sharpening pencils.